

## Message Text

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ORIGIN HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10  
L-03 ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 ICA-11  
TRSE-00 DODE-00 H-01 NSC-05 CA-01 /097 R

DRAFTED BY HA/HR:CEMIGY:CLBRODY:LR  
APPROVED BY HA:PDERIAN  
EUR/CE:VGRAY  
HA/HR: C B SALMON, JR.

-----129705 281926Z /41

R 281726Z JUL 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
INFO CSCE COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 190862

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, GE, GW, CSCE, PO

SUBJECT: CONSULTATION WITH FRG EMBASSY ON ETHNIC GERMAN  
MIGRATION

REF: STATE 168051 (NOTAL)

1. VON BASSEWITZ CALLED ON DEPOFF JULY 11 WITH RESPONSE  
TO DEPARTMENT'S INQUIRY ABOUT ETHNIC GERMAN MIGRATION  
ISSUE. HIS SPECIFIC COMMENTS ON THIS WERE ACCOMPAINED BY  
THOUGHTS ON OTHER MORE GENERAL BUT RELATED ISSUES OF CSCE  
DEMARCHES, WHICH HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO PROVIDE.  
FOLLOWING PRECISE REFLECTS ORDER IN WHICH VON BASSEWITZ  
RAISED POINTS.

2. CONTACTS WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY DERIAN: FRG EMBASSY  
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WELCOMED OPPORTUNITY FOR EXPANDED CONTACTS WITH MS. DERIAN.  
BONN AS WELL LOOKED FORWARD TO VISIT BY MS. DERIAN AND  
NOTED HER INTENTION TO STOP IN FRG CAPITAL BEFORE TRAVEL TO  
GDR. (FYI: IN CONVERSATION WITH FRG BUNDESTAG VP RENG  
JUNE 28, MS. DERIAN CONFIRMED INTENTION FOR VISIT TO GDR  
WITH BONN STOP BEFORE HAND. NO DATES HAVE BEEN SET FOR  
TRIP. END FYI).

3. CSCE BILATERAL DEMARCHES: BONN WAS AWARE OF U.S. INTENTIONS TO PURSUE SERIES OF BILATERAL DEMARCHES WITH SOVIET BLOC ON CSCE COMPLIANCE AND POSSIBILITIES FOR MADRID. WHILE SIMILAR BILATERAL DEMARCHES BY INDIVIDUAL EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS WERE POSSIBLE AND EVEN LIKELY IN PERIOD BEFORE MADRID, IT WOULD BE TOO MUCH TO EXPECT EC-9, FOR EXAMPLE, TO AGREE TO COMMON TIMING OR CONTENT FOR DEMARCHES IN THE NAME OF THE EC. NINE WERE SIMPLY NOT INCLINED TO COORDINATE SUCH AN UNDERTAKING, GIVEN RELUCTANCE OF CERTAIN MEMBERS (E.G. FRENCH) TO LEND THEMSELVES TO MULTILATERAL CSCE INITIATIVES. ALTHOUGH WARSAW PACT STATES AT THE MARCH, 1978 SOFIA FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING MAY HAVE ADOPTED TOUGHER LINE ON WILLINGNESS TO ENGAGE WITH WEST IN CSCE DIPLOMACY, BONN'S OWN BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH HUNGARIANS (DEPFON MIN NAGY) LAST MONTH DISCLOSED SOME INTEREST, AT LEAST ON PART OF BUDAPEST, FOR SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGES. BONN WAS UNAWARE OF VIEWS OF OTHER NINE MEMBER STATES IN THIS REGARD BUT FELT THAT U.S. INITIATIVES IN MOVING FORWARD WITH BILATERALS WOULD PROVIDE NECESSARY POLITICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL BOOST TO AT LEAST SOME OF OTHER NINE OR NATO GOVERNMENTS TO FOLLOW SUIT.

4. ETHNIC GERMAN FAMILY REUNIFICATION: FRG WILL CONTINUE ACTIVE DIPLOMACY WITH EACH EASTERN EUROPEAN GOVERNMENT TO  
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INCREASE RATE OF WESTWARD MIGRATION. IT MIGHT BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE TO THIS EFFORT IF U.S. WERE TO BRING UP SPECIFIC CASES OF ETHNIC GERMANS IN ITS OWN BILATERAL CSCE DEMARCHES. IT WAS LESS CLEAR THAT SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION BY U.S. OF ETHNIC GERMAN MINORITY PROBLEMS IN SOVIET BLOC WOULD HAVE NEGATIVE IMPACT ON FRG INITIATIVES, BUT REFERENCE IN BONN WAS FOR U.S. NOT TO TAKE THE RISK. ANCILLIARY BUT REAL ISSUE WAS POSSIBLE EXACERBATING EFFECT OF NOTICABLE U.S. DIPLOMACY RE ETHNIC GERMANS ON FRG DOMESTIC POLITICAL FRICTION OVER ETHNIC QUESTION BETWEEN MAJORITY AND OPPOSITION PARTIES. IT WAS CLEAR THAT BONN'S SUCCESS IN EXTRACTING ETHNIC GERMANS FROM EASTERN EUROPE CAME IN WAVES; MATTERS INVARIABLY IMPROVED WHENEVER PENDING FRG ECONOMIC CONCESSIONS WERE ON DIPLOMATIC AGENDA WITH A SOVIET BLOC GOVERNMENT. THIS REALITY WAS NOT PLEASANT OR SATISFACTORY TO BONN BUT FRG DIPLOMACY WOULD REMAIN ACTIVE IN THESE LESS-THAN-IDEAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

5. U.S.-FRG COOPERATION IN INDIVIDUAL CASES: BONN APPRECIATED AND ACCEPTED THE PROPOSAL (REFTEL) THAT INDIVIDUAL INQUIRIES TO USG RE ETHNIC GERMAN MIGRATION BE PASSED TO FRG AUTHORITIES. THIS COULD BE DONE IN CAPITALS BETWEEN

THE RESPECTIVE EMBASSIES; IN WASHINGTON, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF THE STATE DEPARTMENT WERE TO TRANSMIT LETTERS IT RECEIVED TO THE FRG EMBASSY. IT WAS UP TO THE CSCE COMMISSION PRESUMABLY TO DECIDE WHETHER TO TRANSMIT ITS

OWN INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE TO THE EMBASSY THROUGH THE STATE DEPARTMENT; THE EMBASSY PREFERRED IT BE DONE THAT WAY, HOWEVER. (FYI: CSCE COMMISSION WOULD ALSO PREFER THIS. END FYI) THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM IF THE STATE DEPARTMENT WERE TO REPLY TO INDIVIDUAL CORRESPONDENTS THAT THEIR INQUIRIES HAD BEEN PASSED DIRECTLY TO FRG AUTHORITIES.

6. DEPOFF RESPONDED THAT USG APPRECIATED AND WOULD ABIDE  
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BY VIEWS VON BASSEWITZ HAD EXPRESSED ON RAISING ETHNIC QUESTION IN ITS OWN CSCE DEMARCHES. USG WAS SENSITIVE TO DIFFERENCES WITHIN EC-9, AND IN NATO FOR THAT MATTER, ON HOW BEST TO DEAL SUBSTANTIVELY WITH CSCE ISSUES. IT THEREFORE SAW LITTLE PURPOSE IN SEEING CSCE DEMARCHES COORDINATED BY OR IN NAME OF NINE OR NATO. USG ALSO HAD HAD RECENT BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH HUNGARIANS. THEY HAD CRITICIZED U.S. DOMESTIC HUMAN RIGHTS SHORTCOMINGS BUT AGREED THAT U.S. INTENT TO PURSUE HUMAN RIGHTS IN ITS OVERALL CSCE DIPLOMACY WAS LEGITIMATE PART OF CSCE PROCESS. U.S. WOULD CONTINUE TO CONSULT WITH ITS NATO ALLIES ON CHARACTER OF ITS CSCE BILATERAL INITIATIVES; IT HAD JUST INFORMED HUNGARIANS OF INTENTION TO BEGIN BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS SOMETIME IN FALL AND EVENTUALLY FIELD A TEAM OF CSCE EXPERTS FOR MEETINGS IN EASTERN EUROPEAN CAPITALS.

7. VON BASSEWITZ CLOSED CONVERSATION BY REITERATING BONN'S DESIRE TO ACCOMMODATE MS. DERIAN'S INTEREST IN EAST EUROPEAN AND ESPECIALLY EAST GERMAN HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS. HE REQUESTED EARLIEST POSSIBLE NOTIFICATION OF FIRM DATES FOR TRIP TO BONN AND GDR. WHICH DEPOFF AGREED TO PROVIDE. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MINORITIES, POPULATION MOVEMENTS  
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**TAGS:** SHUM, GC, GE, PO, CSCE  
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**Type:** TE  
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